



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Keystone Ag Digest



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110  
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Released: Early May 2010

Bi-Monthly

Vol. 10 No. 09

IN THIS ISSUE:	Poultry Livestock Slaughter	Agricultural Prices Cold Storage
This publication may be found on the Internet at <a href="http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa">www.nass.usda.gov/pa</a> and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."		

**Note to Survey Respondents:** Results of many surveys we conduct throughout the year are included in this report! Most survey results are not published individually. **Thank you** for taking the time to complete our surveys!

## USDA TO SURVEY PENNSYLVANIA FARMERS

Pennsylvania farmers will be asked to participate in a nationwide survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in early June. Information gleaned from the survey will be used to estimate 2010 crop acreage and mid-year livestock inventories. The Pennsylvania Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service is operated jointly by USDA and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Farmer cooperation is necessary to provide reliable crop and livestock information. USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board will release national and state reports based on the information in late June. Results of this survey will provide farmers, agri-businesses, policymakers and other users of agricultural data with the information vital for planning and decision making. All information concerning individuals is CONFIDENTIAL and will be used in developing the State and national estimates.

## PRICES PAID INDEX UP 1 POINT

The April Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) is 183 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index is up 1 point (0.5 percent) from March and 3 points (1.7 percent) above April 2009. Higher prices in April for feeder cattle, diesel, feeder pigs, and potash & phosphate more than offset lower prices for complete feeds, concentrates, feed grains, and herbicides.

**PRODUCTION INDEX:** The April index, at 185, increased 0.5 percent from last month but was unchanged from last year. Higher prices in April for feeder cattle, diesel, feeder pigs, and potash & phosphate more than offset lower prices for complete feeds, concentrates, feed grains, and herbicides.

**Feed:** The April index, at 172, decreased 1.7 percent from March and 7.0 percent from last April. Since March, lower prices for complete feeds, concentrates, feed grains, and supplements more than offset higher prices for hay & forages.

**Fuels:** The April index, at 287, is up 4.0 percent from a month earlier and 44 percent above April 2009. Compared with last month, prices are higher for diesel, gasoline, and LP gas.

**SOURCE:** *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., April 30, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## APRIL FARM PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DOWN 2 POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in April, at 138 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, decreased 2 points (1.4 percent) from March. The Crop Index is down 3 points (2.0 percent) and the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received lower prices for eggs, strawberries, broccoli, and lettuce and higher prices for cattle, onions, hogs, and soybeans. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of cattle, sweet corn, strawberries, and milk offset decreased marketings of soybeans, corn, wheat, and cotton.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 9 points (7.0 percent) from April 2009. The Food Commodities Index, at 138, decreased 3 points (2.1 percent) from last month but increased 12 points (9.5 percent) from April 2009.

**Food Grains:** The April index, at 170, is unchanged from the previous month but 15 percent below a year ago. The April all wheat price, at \$4.69 per bushel, is down 1 cent from March and \$1.06 below April 2009.

**Feed Grains & Hay:** The April index is 151, down 1.3 percent from last month and 10 percent below a year ago. The corn price, at \$3.51 per bushel, is down 4 cents from last month and 34 cents below April 2009. The all hay price, at \$109.00 per ton, increased \$1.00 from March but declined \$17.00 from last April.

**Fruits & Nuts:** The April index, at 123, is down 8.9 percent from March but 1.7 percent higher than a year ago. Price decreases for strawberries, grapefruit, and oranges more than offset price increases for pears, apples, and lemons.

**Commercial Vegetables:** The April index, at 199, is down 7.4 percent from last month but 13 percent above April 2009. Price declines for sweet corn, broccoli, lettuce, and tomatoes more than offset price increases during April for onions, asparagus, and cauliflower.

**Dairy Products:** The April index, at 112, is down 0.9 percent from a month ago but 23 percent higher than April last year. The April all milk price of \$14.60 per cwt is down 20 cents from last month but \$2.70 higher than April 2009. The fluid grade milk price is 20 cents lower than March but the manufacturing grade milk price is 30 cents higher.

**SOURCE:** *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., April 30, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

# PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, SELECTED COMMODITIES, APRIL 2010

Commodity	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Apr 2009	Mar 2010	Apr 2010 <sup>1</sup>	Apr 2009	Mar 2010	Apr 2010 <sup>1</sup>
Dollars							
Corn .....	Bu.	4.11	3.92	3.70	3.85	3.55	3.51
Wheat, Winter <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	5.26	4.45	4.33
Oats.....	Bu.	3.08	2.82	2.56	2.37	2.28	2.04
Barley <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	4.84	4.15	3.63
Soybeans <sup>2</sup> .....	Bu.	-	-	-	9.79	9.39	9.48
Hay, Dry All.....	Ton	136.00	128.00	119.00	126.00	108.00	109.00
Dry Alfalfa .....	Ton	159.00	160.00	135.00	131.00	111.00	113.00
Dry Other .....	Ton	133.00	115.00	115.00	114.00	98.60	99.30
Apples, Fresh Use .....	Lb.	0.298	0.306	0.325	0.204	0.295	0.300
Cows, Slaughter .....	Cwt.	48.00	50.00	52.60	48.00	53.50	56.90
Steers & Heifers.....	Cwt.	81.00	86.60	90.30	88.30	95.60	101.00
Calves .....	Cwt.	103.00	98.30	100.00	109.00	115.00	121.00
Barrows & Gilts .....	Cwt.	43.10	49.50	50.50	44.20	52.30	53.70
Sows .....	Cwt.	46.40	51.80	52.90	41.50	49.00	50.10
Sheep .....	Cwt.	40.00	70.00	-	34.70	51.80	-
Lambs.....	Cwt.	126.00	133.00	-	101.00	115.00	-
Eggs <sup>3</sup> .....	Doz.	0.800	<sup>6</sup>	<sup>6</sup>	0.774	1.060	0.599
Milk, Fluid Grade.....	Cwt.	13.40	17.00	-	11.90	14.80	14.60
Manufactured Grade <sup>4</sup> .....	Cwt.	-	-	-	11.40	13.40	13.70
All .....	Cwt.	13.40	17.00	16.20	11.90	14.80	14.60
Milk Cows <sup>5</sup> .....	Head	1,500.00	-	1,400.00	1,390.00	-	1,330.00

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania price not published on monthly basis, average price is published annually. <sup>3</sup> Market (table) eggs, including eggs sold retail by the producer. <sup>4</sup> PA is no longer published due to insufficient manufacturing grade milk volume. <sup>5</sup> Quarterly (Jan., Apr., Jul, Oct.). <sup>6</sup> PA is no longer publishing monthly Market Eggs prices. SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 p.m., March 30, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

# PRICES PAID FOR FUELS AND FEED, MARCH 2009 - MARCH 2010

Commodity	Unit	Northeast Region <sup>1</sup>		United States	
		March 2009	March 2010	March 2009	March 2010
		Dollars			
Fuels:					
Gasoline, Service Station (Unleaded) .....	Gal.	2.009	2.831	1.941	2.787
Gasoline, Bulk Delivery (Unleaded) .....	Gal.	2.003	2.849	1.972	2.818
Diesel, Bulk Delivery .....	Gal.	1.952	2.690	1.688	2.540
L.P. Gas, Bulk Delivery .....	Gal.	2.190	2.783	1.737	2.014
Feed:					
Alfalfa Meal .....	Cwt.	27.20	27.60	23.90	23.80
Alfalfa Pellets .....	Cwt.	28.90	29.00	24.10	23.20
Bran .....	Cwt.	22.70	20.70	23.20	22.70
Beef Cattle Concentrate, 32-36% .....	Ton	455.00	378.00	488.00	413.00
Corn Meal .....	Cwt.	15.30	13.00	13.40	12.80
Cottonseed Meal, 41% .....	Cwt.	25.90	24.30	25.60	25.40
Dairy Feed, 14% .....	Ton	-	369.00	285.00	264.00
16% .....	Ton	258.00	242.00	293.00	274.00
18% .....	Ton	285.00	272.00	297.00	284.00
20% .....	Ton	295.00	273.00	295.00	274.00
32-38% .....	Ton	412.00	377.00	458.00	419.00
Hog Feed, 14-18% .....	Ton	352.00	284.00	328.00	303.00
38-42% .....	Ton	515.00	482.00	493.00	446.00
Molasses, Liquid .....	Cwt.	22.90	15.90	22.20	21.30
Poultry Feed, Broiler Grower .....	Ton	514.00	442.00	464.00	456.00
Chick Starter .....	Ton	521.00	483.00	501.00	485.00
Laying Feed .....	Ton	430.00	368.00	391.00	374.00
Turkey Grower .....	Ton	507.00	496.00	466.00	434.00
Soybean Meal, 44% .....	Cwt.	25.20	23.80	23.20	23.80
Soybean Meal, over 44% .....	Cwt.	24.20	21.30	22.00	21.20
Stock Salt .....	50 Lb.	7.60	6.95	5.93	5.92
Trace Mineral Blocks .....	50 Lb.	8.35	8.97	7.09	8.02

<sup>1</sup> Northeast region: CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT. Beginning in 2009, the reference period for the annual prices paid data was changed from April to March. The prices paid data will continue to be published in the April Agricultural Prices report. SOURCE: **Agricultural Prices**, 3:00 p.m., April 30, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 31, 2010

**Apples in cold storage** reported by cold storage warehouses for Pennsylvania totaled 2,553,500 bushels on March 31, 2010, compared to 2,384,000 bushels on March 31, 2009. The three largest varieties in storage on March 31, 2010 were: Golden Delicious, 775,000 bushels; York, 598,000 bushels; and Red Delicious, 351,000 bushels.

**Total apple stocks** in Pennsylvania totaled 107,247,000 pounds on March 31, 2010, compared to 100,128,000 pounds on March 31, 2010.

SOURCE: **Cold Storage**, 3:00 p.m., April 22, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### **APPLE STOCKS IN COLD STORAGE, PENNSYLVANIA & UNITED STATES**

Commodity	All Warehouse Stocks		
	March 31, 2009	February 28, 2010	March 31, 2010
<b>Pennsylvania</b>			
Apples:			
Regular Storage	6,552,000	62,811,000	31,668,000
Controlled Atmosphere	93,576,000	88,641,000	75,579,000
<b>TOTAL APPLES</b>	<b>100,128,000</b>	<b>151,452,000</b>	<b>107,247,000</b>
<b>United States</b>			
Apples:			
Regular Storage	275,396,000	462,121,000	297,891,000
Controlled Atmosphere	2,584,857,000	2,935,275,000	2,307,116,000
<b>TOTAL APPLES</b>	<b>2,860,253,000</b>	<b>3,397,396,000</b>	<b>2,605,007,000</b>

SOURCE: **Cold Storage**, 3:00 p.m., April 22, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## ANNUAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production in Pennsylvania during 2009 totaled 1,281.8 million pounds, dressed weight basis, down 4 percent from a year ago. Commercial cattle slaughter, at 928,500 head, was down 7 percent from last year. Of this number, 910,200 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Beef production, at 1,152 million pounds live weight, was down 8 percent from 2008. Average live weight per head was 1,255 pounds, a decrease of 8 pounds per head from last year. Commercial calf slaughter, at 129,500 head, was down 19 percent from a year ago. Veal production, at 55.1 million pounds live weight, was down 7 percent from a year ago. Average live weight increased 56 pounds per head to 426 pounds. Commercial hog slaughter, at 3,008,300 head, was down less than 1 percent from last year. Of this number, 2,993,800 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Pork production was 774.4 million pounds live weight, up just under 1 percent from 2008. Average live weight increased 2 pounds per head to 258 pounds. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 46,300 head, down 16 percent from last year. Of this number, 44,800 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Lamb and mutton production was 4.54 million pounds live weight, down 15 percent from a year ago. The average live weight increased 1 pound to 98 pounds per head. Federally inspected goat slaughter, at 27,382 head slaughtered for the year of 2009 at 46 plants across Pennsylvania. There were an estimated 234 commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2010, this is down from 245 a year ago. Eighty-nine of these plants were under federal inspection.

**Nationally**, red meat production in commercial plants and on farms totaled 49.4 billion pounds in 2009, 2 percent lower than the previous year. Beef production, at 26.1 billion pounds, down 2 percent from the previous year. Veal production totaled 147 million pounds, down 3 percent from last year. Pork production, at 23.0 billion pounds, was 1 percent below the previous year. Lamb and mutton production totaled 177 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2008. There were 834 plants slaughtering under federal inspection in the U.S. on January 1, 2010, compared with 818 last year. Of these, 633 slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2009 with the 14 largest plants slaughtering 56 percent of the total cattle killed. Hogs were slaughtered at 615 plants, with the 12 largest plants accounting for 55 percent of the total. Likewise, 6 of the 276 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 56 percent of the total and 4 of the 504 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2009 comprised about 67 percent of the total head. Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas accounted for 50 percent of the U.S. commercial red meat production in 2009, similar to 2008.

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter 2009 Summary**, 8:30 a.m., April 29, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### **COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, 2009 YEARLY TOTALS**

Specie	Unit	PA	U S
Red Meat Prod.....	Million pounds	1,281.8	49,274.1
Cattle .....	1,000 Head	928.5	33,338.2
	1,000 Pounds Live	1,152,461	42,966,102
	Average Live Weight	1,255	1,293
Calves.....	1,000 Head	129.5	944.2
	1,000 Pounds Live	55,108	233,403
	Average Live Weight	426	250
Hogs .....	1,000 Head	3,008.3	113,618.1
	1,000 Pounds Live	774,417	30,723,171
	Average Live Weight	258	271
Sheep & Lambs ...	1,000 Head	46.3	2,515.9
	1,000 Pounds Live	4,537	341,351
	Average Live Weight	98	136

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter 2009 Summary**, 8:30 a.m., April 29, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### **FEDERALLY INSPECTED PLANTS AND HEAD SLAUGHTERED, 2009**

Specie	Unit	PA	U S
Cattle .....	Plants	75	633
	Head	910,226	32,765,207
Calves.....	Plants	44	276
	Head	129,390	930,375
Hogs .....	Plants	72	615
	Head	2,993,769	112,612,252
Sheep & Lambs .....	Plants	58	504
	Head	44,776	2,323,071
Goats .....	Plants	46	426
	Head	27,382	659,290
Bison.....	Plants	9	130
	Head	501	53,535

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter 2009 Summary**, 8:30 a.m., April 29, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## MONTHLY POULTRY SUMMARY

Item	Unit	Pennsylvania			United States		
		Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010
Layers .....	Thous.	22,712	23,458	23,672	340,914	339,086	340,919
Eggs Per 100 Layers .....	Number	2,452	2,230	2,488	2,269	2,038	2,292
Eggs Produced .....	Million	557	523	589	7,737	6,909	7,814
Chick Hatch-Broiler Type .....	Thous.	14,552	11,347	13,463	785,851	699,776	786,954
Chick Hatch-Egg Type <sup>1</sup> .....	Thous.	-	-	-	41,737	40,120	45,151
Turkey Poults Placed .....	Thous.	-	-	-	23,817	21,005	22,961

<sup>1</sup> April 2009 state level data for egg-type chicks hatched will no longer be published.

SOURCES: **Chickens and Eggs**, 3:00 p.m., April 23, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

**Turkey Hatchery**, 3:00 p.m., April 15, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

### EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production in Pennsylvania during March 2010 totaled 589 million eggs, up 6 percent from the 557 million eggs produced in March 2009. The total number of layers averaged 23.7 million during March, a 4 percent increase from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,488 eggs during the month, an increase of 36 eggs overall from March 2009. Broiler-type chicks hatched in Pennsylvania totaled 13.5 million during March 2010, down 7 percent from the same month last year.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.81 billion during March 2010, up one percent from last year. Production included 6.71 billion table eggs, and 1.10 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.03 billion were broiler-type and 76 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2010 averaged 341 million, a slight increase from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,292 eggs, an increase of 23 eggs from March 2009.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March 2010 totaled 45.2 million, up 8 percent from March 2009. Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2010 totaled 787 million, up slightly from March 2009. There were 23.0 million net poults placed during March 2010 in the United States, down 4 percent from the number placed during the same month a year earlier.

SOURCE: **Chickens and Eggs**, 3:00 p.m., April 23, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

*County estimates for 2009 can now be found online for barley, corn, oats, soybeans and wheat.*

*Check out NASS's homepage at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) and click on 'QuickSTATS'*

### LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in **Pennsylvania** during March 2010 totaled 120.1 million pounds, up 13 percent from March 2009. Beef production, at 109.8 million pounds live weight, was up 13 percent from March 2009. Total head slaughtered was 87,500, up 10,800 head from 2009. Live weight averaged 1,271 pounds, down 6 pounds from last year. Veal production was 4.65 million pounds live weight, down 6 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 11,000 head was down 5 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 1 pound to 425 pounds. Pork production was 71.8 million pounds live weight, up 14 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 274,400, up 12 percent from March 2009. Average live weight was up 5 pounds from last year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production during March 2010 was 430,000 pounds live weight, down 1 percent from a year ago. The number slaughtered was 4,800, up 9 percent. Average live weight decreased 8 pounds to 91 pounds.

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter**, 8:30 a.m. April 23, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

#### COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, MAR 2010

Specie	Unit	Pennsylvania	United States
Red Meat Prod....	Million pounds	120.1	4,281.7
Cattle .....	1,000 Head	87.5	2,912.7
	1,000 pounds live	109,808	3,693,228
Calves.....	1,000 Head	11.0	79.8
	1,000 pounds live	4,652	20,382
Hogs .....	1,000 Head	274.4	10,030.5
	1,000 pounds live	71,756	2,723,773
Sheep & Lambs ...	1,000 Head	4.8	262.3
	1,000 pounds live	430	35,254

SOURCE: **Livestock Slaughter**, 8:30 a.m. April 23, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA; available at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
2301 N Cameron St Room G-19  
Harrisburg PA 17110-9405

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PRRST STD  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USDA  
PERMIT NO. G-38